

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

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March 15, 2007

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director of Mental Health

SUBJECT: **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MENTALLY ILL OFFENDER CRIME
REDUCTION GRANT AWARD FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CORRECTIONS STANDARDS AUTHORITY**

This is to inform your Board of the Department of Mental Health's (DMH) planned action related to your February 12, 2007 authorization for the Los Angeles County Sheriff to sign, accept and execute the County's grant award from the California Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) for the 2007 Mentally Ill Offenders Crime Reduction (MIOCR) Grant Program in the amount of \$1,494,575 for an 18-month period effective January 1, 2007.

On August 31, 2006, the CSA released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the 2007 MIOCR Grant Program, with a November 6, 2006 deadline for submission of proposals. The CSA required that, for proposals targeting adult mentally ill offenders, applicants undertake a coordinated planning process that included, at a minimum, the Sheriff, Chief Probation Officer, County Mental Health Director and a representative of local law enforcement, with the Sheriff's Department as the lead agency. Emphasis was to be placed on collaboration with other community agencies in developing the program and providing services. The CSA further required that, in order for a proposal to be considered for funding, an adopted resolution, authorizing the Sheriff to submit the MIOCR application on behalf of the County and to sign the Grant Agreement with the CSA be submitted to the CSA no later than January 1, 2007.

On December 12, 2006 your Board adopted the required resolution authorizing the Sheriff's Department to submit the County of Los Angeles' grant application for the MIOCR III program and to execute and submit all documents necessary for completion of the project. The application was developed collaboratively by the Sheriff's Department, DMH, the Department of Probation, and a variety of community-based service providers, including an existing DMH contractor, Special Service for Groups (SSG), that contributed significantly to the project concept and design. The application

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specified that program funds would be utilized to provide adult mentally ill offenders with intensive in-jail and post-incarceration community services, the majority of which would be mental health services and supports under the auspices of SSG, an experienced provider of services to the target population, including those with co-occurring substance abuse and/or anger and aggression offenses.

Based on your Board's subsequent February 12, 2007 authorization to the Sheriff to sign, accept and execute the MIOCR Grant Program and on the related Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has been entered into among the Sheriff's Department, DMH and the Department of Probation, DMH intends, under delegated authority, to amend its Mental Health Services Agreement with SSG in the amount of \$1,173,575 for the MIOCR Grant Program. In accordance with the grant period specified in your Board's acceptance of the grant and the related MOU, this amendment will be effective January 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.

Throughout the MIOCR grant period DMH will work closely with SSG, the Sheriff's Department and its other collaborative partners to ensure compliance with the terms of the grant and the success of the program. We are confident that this program, which features a therapeutic community within the jail, intensive release/transition planning, an emphasis on employment and housing, and utilization of evidence-based and emerging best practices in treating co-occurring substance abuse and anger/aggression issues, will contribute significantly to the County's efforts to reduce recidivism and increase community reintegration among mentally ill offenders.

MJS:JCA:JKA:jka

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel

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